

FLAG WEEK

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
RALEIGH*A Proclamation by the Governor*

Human emotions have, for all time, found expression in visible and tangible symbols. Before the dawn of written history men used the crude methods at their command to carve and fashion concrete tokens of abstract things. As the race has advanced in intellect and ingenuity, so this custom has advanced, until today some of the finest expressions of inner thought are found on canvas, carved in marble, wrought in bronze and in patriotic and religious ritualism.

Tribes had their symbols, clans their insignia; and today the great nations of the earth have their flags, which are revered in peace and followed in battle, not merely because of their beauty but because of what they represent.

As the planets differ in glory, according to the learned Saint Paul, so flags differ in beauty. Some are adorned with purely material things, while others symbolize the higher emotions. Of all these, our own Old Glory is, it seems to me, the climax. Its field represents the canopy of Heaven, bedecked with stars of God's own creation, and can but remind the patriotic American that men and women of our native land have fixed their faith on higher things. Its red bars represent the blood that has been shed that we might have and perpetuate liberty, and the white that purity of personal and national life which is essential if we are to maintain our own respect and the respect of sister nations. In brief, our ensign is simple. It is not complicated but tells its own story.

For some years it has been the custom of our people to observe June 14, each year, as Flag Day; and, this year being the sesquicentennial of the adoption of the flag, the week of June 8-14 will be known as Flag Week. It affords me pleasure, therefore, to issue my proclamation calling upon our people to observe, in an appropriate manner, the day and week indicated. If this period occurred during the school season, I should call upon the